

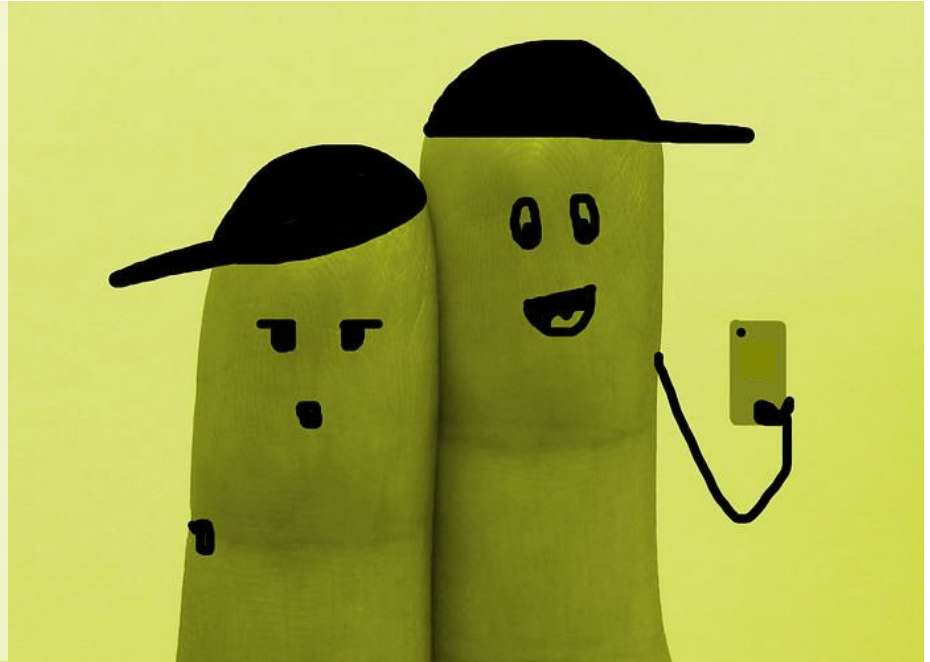
Embracing Open Source for NASA's Earth Science Data Systems

Katie Baynes, Dan Pilone, Ryan Boller, David Meyer, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD
Kevin Murphy, NASA HQ, Washington, DC

First of all, thanks for
having me. I am so
excited to be here!

Look guys! I am on
stage!

<https://pixabay.com/en/selfie-mobile-phone-self-timer-2012540/> (licensed CC0)

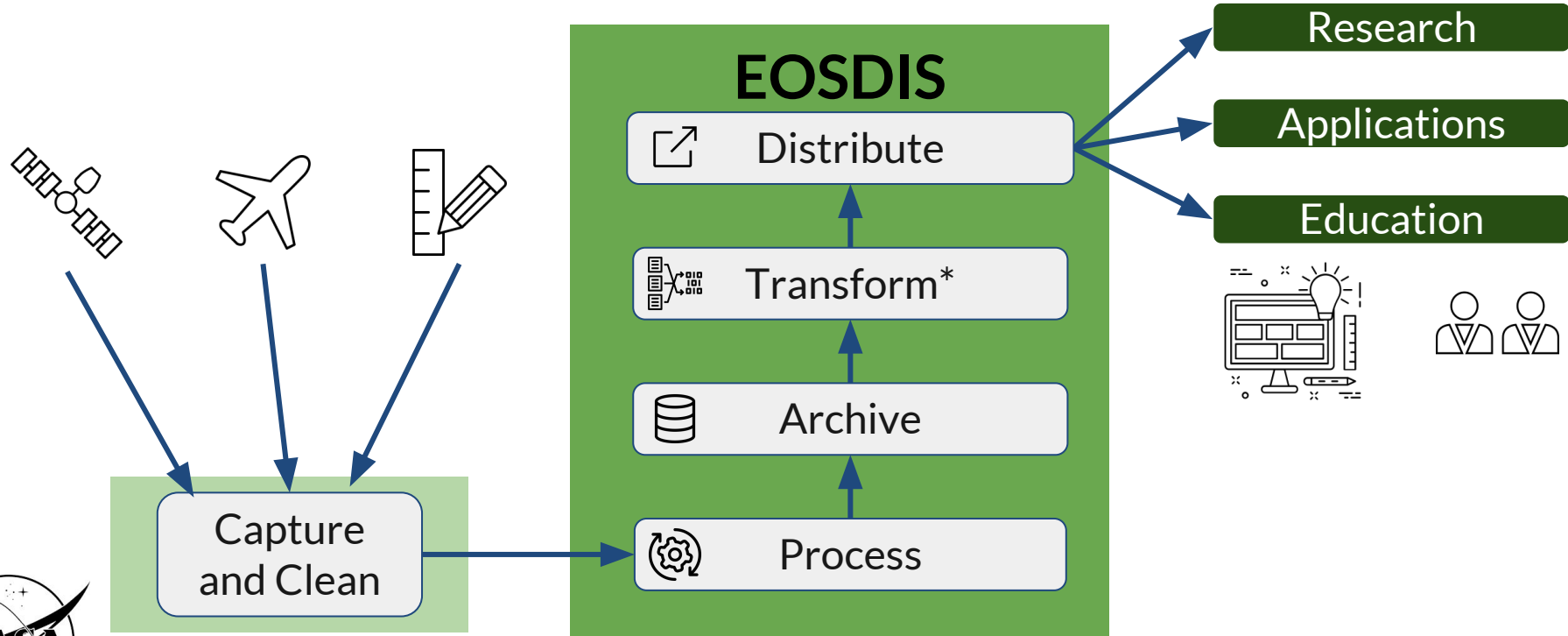


First, an EOSDIS* Overview

(so where do you work at NASA?)

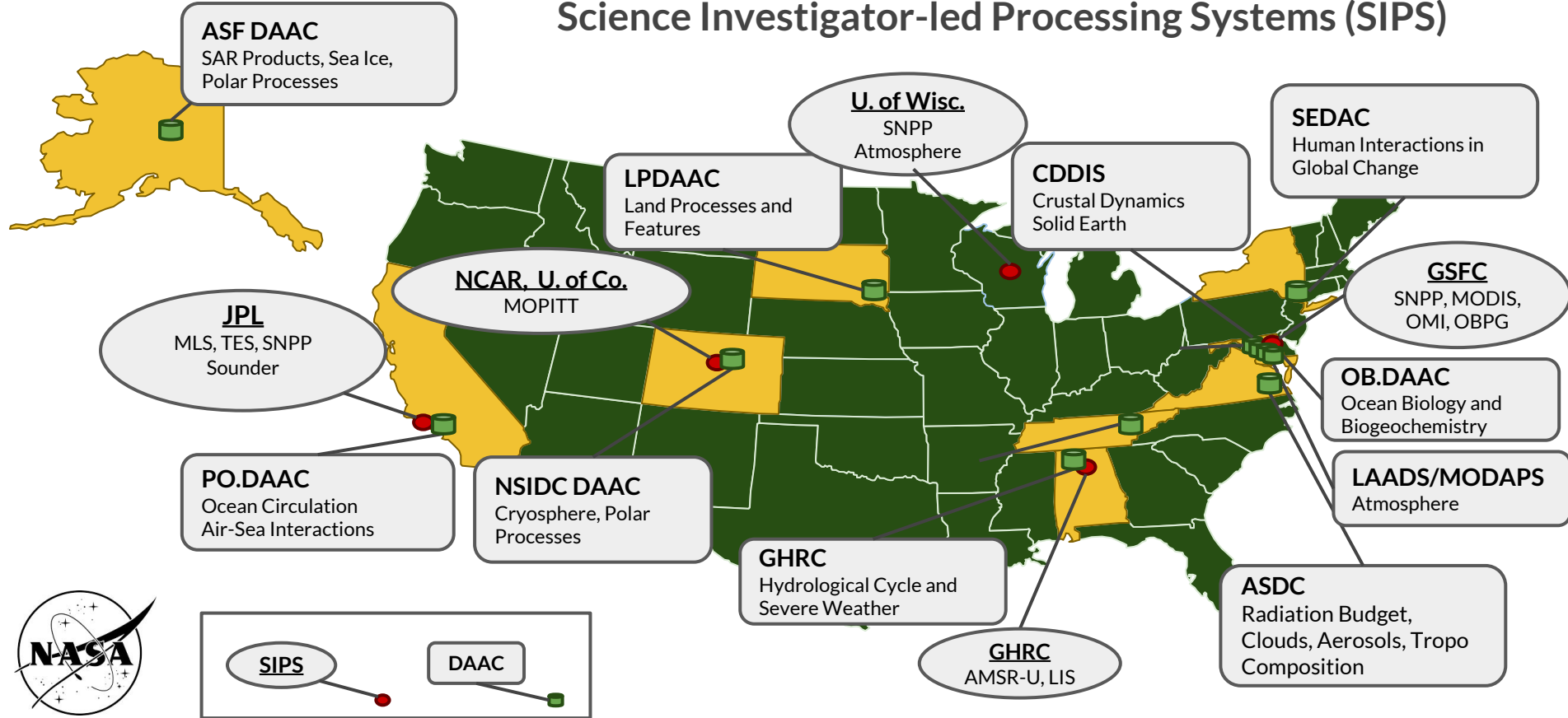
*Earth Observing System Data and Information System (i say “ee-oh-ess-diss”)

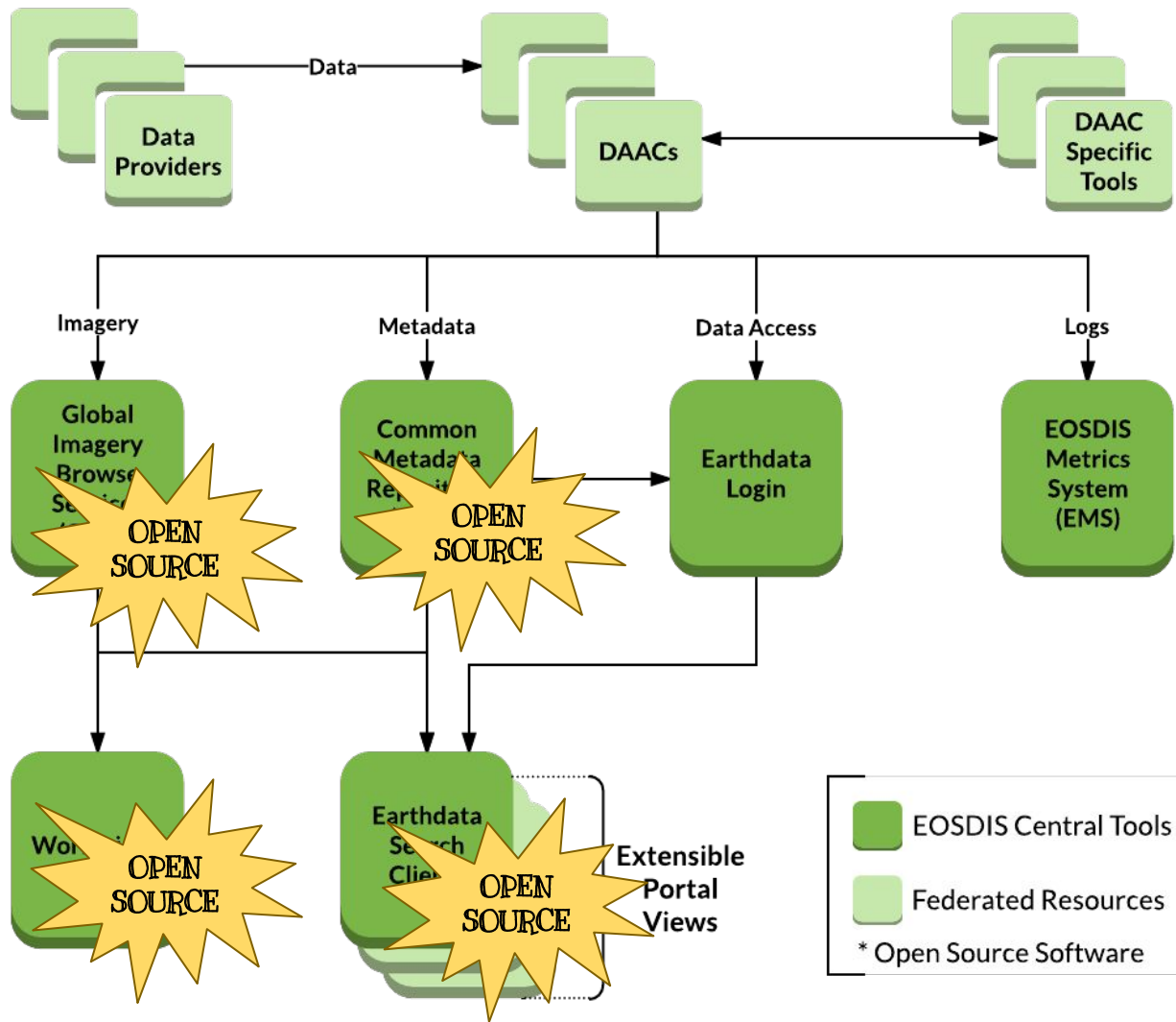
Putting EOSDIS in Context

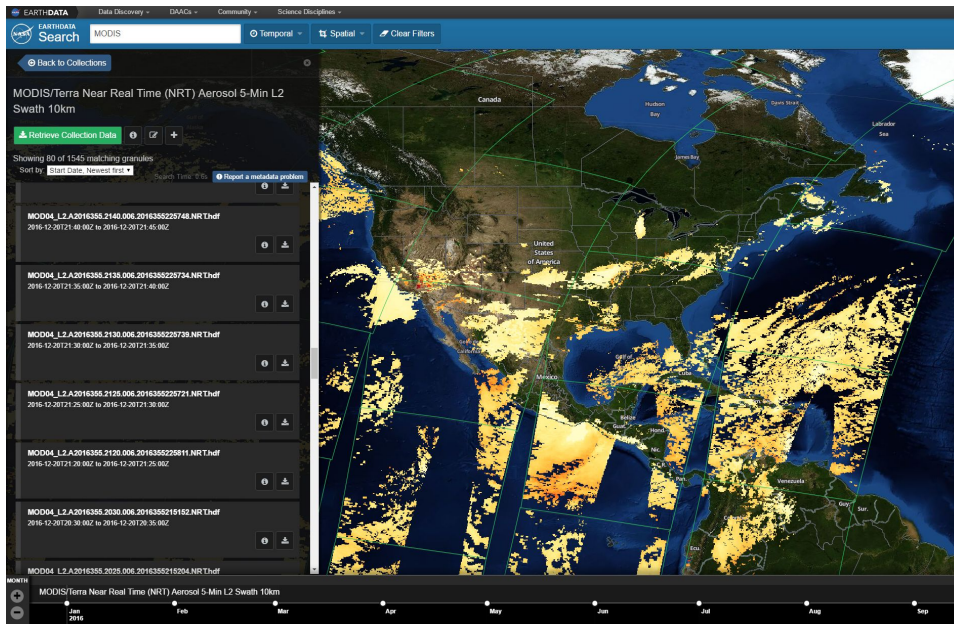


*Subset, reformat, reproject

Distributed Active Archive Centers (DAACs), archive and distribute standard data products produced by Science Investigator-led Processing Systems (SIPS)



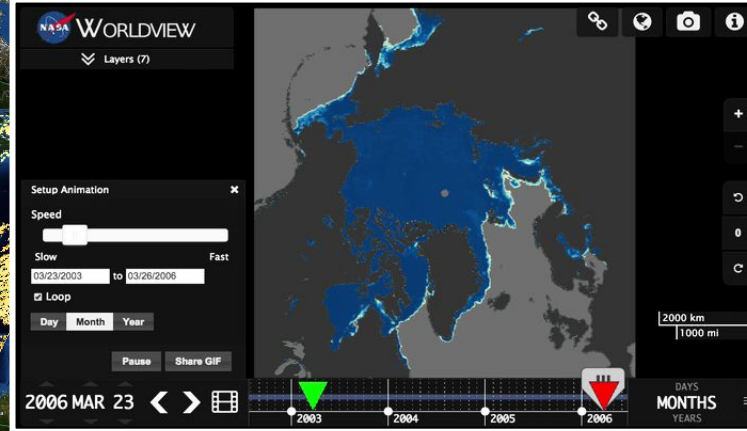
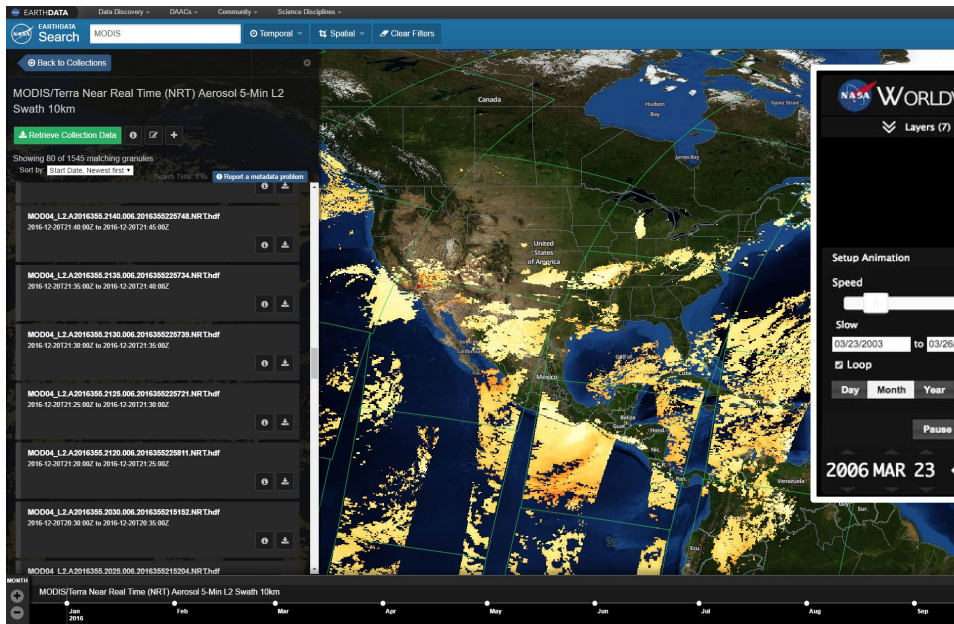




Data Centric End Users

<https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov>





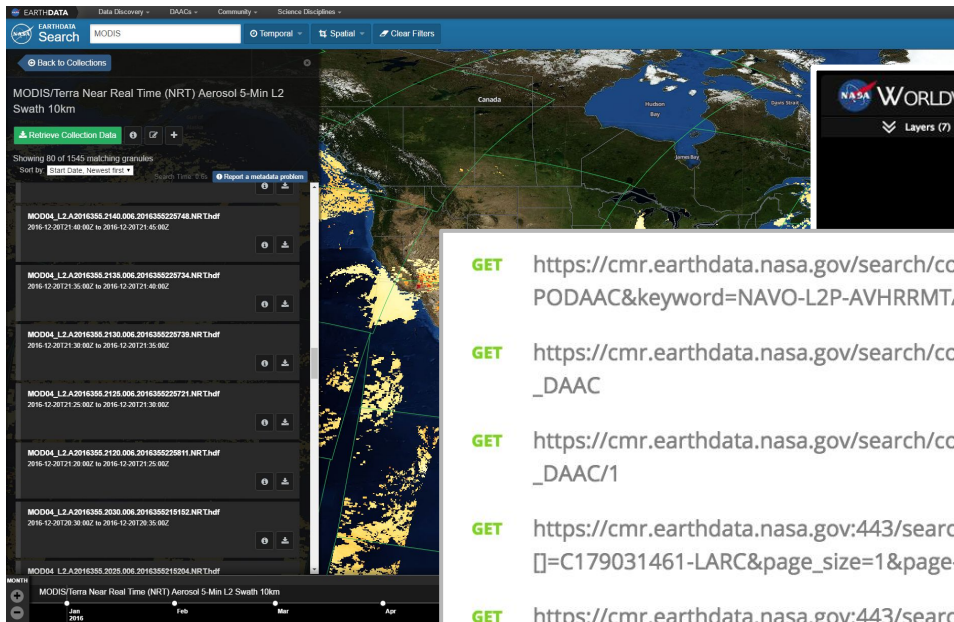
Imagery Centric End Users

<https://worldview.earthdata.nasa.gov>

Data Centric End Users

<https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov>





Data Centric End Users

<https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov>

GET https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov/search/collections.xml?provider_id=PODAAC&keyword=NAVO-L2P-AVHRRMTA_G

GET https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov/search/concepts/C179002785-ORNL_DAAC

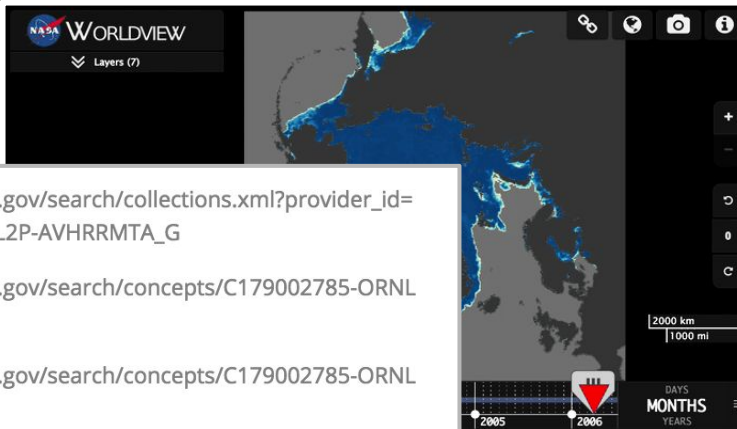
GET https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov/search/concepts/C179002785-ORNL_DAAC/1

GET [https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id\[\]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=99999](https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id[]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=99999)

GET [https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id\[\]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=9999](https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id[]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=9999)

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GET [https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id\[\]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=30](https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov:443/search/granules.json?concept_id[]=C179031461-LARC&page_size=1&page-num=30)



Code Centric End Users

<https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov>

Code Centric End Users

<https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov/search>



Search datasets, news, articles, and information



<https://earthdata.nasa.gov/>



ATMOSPHERE

CALIBRATED
RADIANCE &
SOLAR RADIANCE

CRYOSPHERE

HUMAN
DIMENSIONS

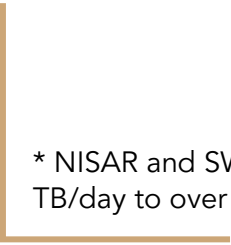
LAND



OCEAN



And we are poised for some **really big** missions in the early 2020s*, so we've got exciting things on the horizon!



* NISAR and SWOT are going to increase EOSDIS daily total ingest from about 6 TB/day to over 110 TB/day



Second, a Quick How To for Open Sourcing at NASA

(ok, how does this work?)

“

*Enhanced reuse of custom-developed code across the Federal Government can have significant benefits for American taxpayers, including decreasing duplicative costs for the same code and reducing Federal vendor lock-in.*⁵

*This policy also establishes a pilot program that requires agencies, when commissioning new custom software, to release at least 20 percent of new custom-developed code as Open Source Software (OSS) for three years, and collect additional data concerning new custom software to inform metrics to gauge the performance of this pilot.*⁶

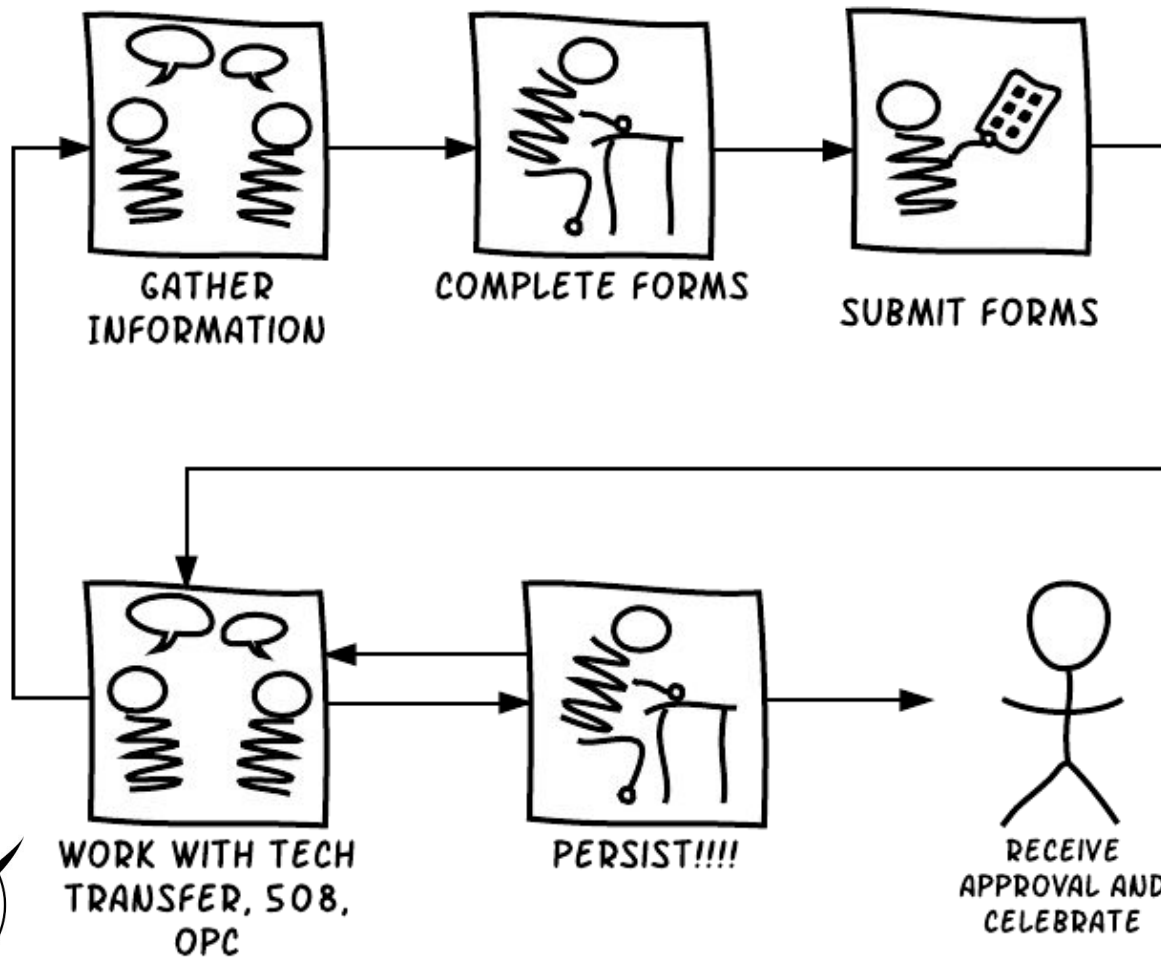
“

<https://sourcecode.cio.gov/>



Here is the high-level process





N.B. This process ensures we are inclusive in our practices and abide by federal law



NASA's Open Sourcing Process in More Detail (a brief sub-presentation)



NASA releases tons of software!



NASA SOFTWARE



https://software.nasa.gov/NASA_Software_Catalog_2017-18.pdf



What Forms Will I Need?

New Technology Report - NF1679 ([online](#) or via doc template)

(You will need the assigned NTR number (e.g. "GSC-17610") for subsequent forms)

Export Control Form

Global Concerns Statement

508 Compliance Statement

GSFC Software Developer Form

(aka Software Release Request Authorization or SRRA)

Open Source Questionnaire

<https://wiki.earthdata.nasa.gov/display/ESDSWG/Software+Release+Process+-+GSFC+Specific>



Things to Be Prepared to Gather

List of prior publications related to software (conferences, etc)

Software Classification

http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?Internal_ID=N_PR_7150_002B_&page_name=AppendixD

Distributed Dependencies (a bit more on that later)

508 Compliance Information (especially for Web Interfaces)

Contractors must be prepared to release copyright claims

(more information available at <https://software.nasa.gov/>)



NASA-Wide Software Classifications

Class A	Human-Rated Space Software Systems
Class B	Non-Human Space-Rated Software Systems or Large-Scale Aeronautics Vehicles
Class C	Mission Support Software or Aeronautic Vehicles, or Major Engineering/Research Facility Software
<i>(e.g., Classes A through C are mostly software developed or acquired for Highly Specialized IT systems)</i>	
Class D	Basic Science/Engineering Design and Research and Technology Software
Class E	Design Concept and Research and Technology Software
Class F	General Purpose Computing, Business and IT Software (Multi-Center or Multi-Program/Project)
Class G	General Purpose Computing, Business and IT Software (Single Center or Project)
Class H	General Purpose Desktop Software

Notes: It is not uncommon for a project to contain multiple systems and subsystems having different software classes.

[Source](#)



Relevant NPRs

NPR 2210.1C

<http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?t=NPR&c=2210&s=1C>

NPR 7150.2B

http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?Internal_ID=N_PR_7150_002B_&page_name=main

(more information available at <https://software.nasa.gov/>).

Licensing



With Regards to Licensing

You will almost certainly need to provide a list of distributed dependencies.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viral_license

Any GPL'd or "viral-licensed" software (or in distributed dependencies) will prevent the Office of Patent Counsel (OPC) from being able to release your work.



With Regards to Licensing

Releases are done under NASA Open Source Agreement (NOSA)

Apache 2.0 on a case-by-case basis*

With Regards to Licensing

[NASA Open Source Agreement](#) ([#NASA](#))

The NASA Open Source Agreement, version 1.3, is not a free software license because it includes a provision requiring changes to be your “original creation”. Free software development depends on combining code from third parties, and the NASA license doesn't permit this.

We urge you not to use this license. In addition, if you are a United States citizen, please write to NASA and call for the use of a truly free software license.

<https://www.gnu.org/licenses/license-list.html#NASA>



With Regards to Licensing

“

We are seeking the Apache 2.0 licenses based on the current statement from the gnu.org regarding its advice for adoption, explained below.

We feel that this would hinder contributors and give pause to anyone considering augmenting and extending our code with other existing code bases (e.g. ‘mash-ups’)

<https://www.gnu.org/licenses/license-list.html#NASA>

“

1022

number of projects released at software.nasa.gov

(End Sub-Presentation)



Recent Open Source Efforts

(only talking about EOSDIS, actively “working” repos)

Some of our more active code bases....


OnEarth	https://github.com/nasa-gibs/onearth
Worldview [🌐]	https://github.com/nasa-gibs/worldview
Earthdata Search	https://github.com/nasa/earthdata-search
Common Metadata Repository	https://github.com/nasa/Common-Metadata-Repository
Metadata Management Tool	https://github.com/nasa/mmt
Cumulus [🌐]	Approved for open source, not public yet
pyCMR	https://github.com/ghrcdaac/cmr





This is great!
Can't wait to really start giving back!





Looking at Worldview:
How can we help?

University Students Working on NASA FOSS

University of Pennsylvania held a FOSS class in Fall of 2016.

A pair of students decided to tackle working on [Worldview](#) to get their feet wet in contributing.

The blogged about it!

<https://www.cis.upenn.edu/~cdmurphy/foss/fall2016/>

<http://dylancodes.tumblr.com/tagged/cis399>

<https://leesaf.tumblr.com/>





University Students Working on NASA FOSS
Great Idea!



Off to a good, but rocky start!

10 months ago

#NASA Worldview

#Worldview

#Open Source

#Computer Science

#Software Development

Setting Up the Worldview Dev Environment on Linux

So! After quite an adventure trying to figure out how to set up the environment and fighting with vagrant, I've come to these concise instructions on getting this set up. *Please note*, I am using Ubuntu 14.04, so different Linux distros may have different steps for unpacking into the localhost.

The following are slight modifications on the [Manual Setup](#) instructions on the project github:

1. Download and install [Node.js](#) using the instructions on their site.
2. Clone the repo:

```
git clone https://github.com/nasa-gibs/worldview.git  
cd worldview
```



Oh No!

9 months ago

#Open Source

#Software Development

#Cesium

#JavaScript

Getting Started with Cesium!

Unfortunately, a number of issues (mostly related to my lack of experience with web development) came up, and I will be unable to work with NASA's Worldview. Their team was very accommodating and did their best, but ultimately the project was too large and didn't have a large base of contributors that were able to help one another with working on issues.

However, I am very excited to begin contributing to [Cesium](#), an open-source library for JavaScript for 3D globes and maps! Installing the program was as easy as typing 'npm install cesium', and forking/cloning the [Github repo](#) was also straightforward. What's more exciting is that other Penn students have already been contributing to this project (so I will have more face-to-face resources to rely on), and to boot, the founder of the project is actually a faculty member in the computer science department.

<http://dylancodes.tumblr.com/post/151762667869/getting-started-with-cesium>



We've made great strides since then!

Project Roadmap

<https://github.com/nasa-gibs/worldview/wiki/Worldview-Roadmap>

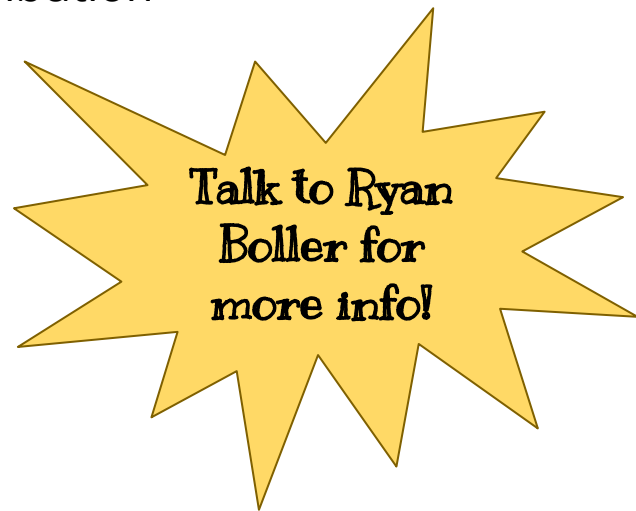
Specific README Sections on Installation and Contribution

More transparent testing:

<https://travis-ci.org/nasa-gibs/worldview>

More transparent issue tracking:

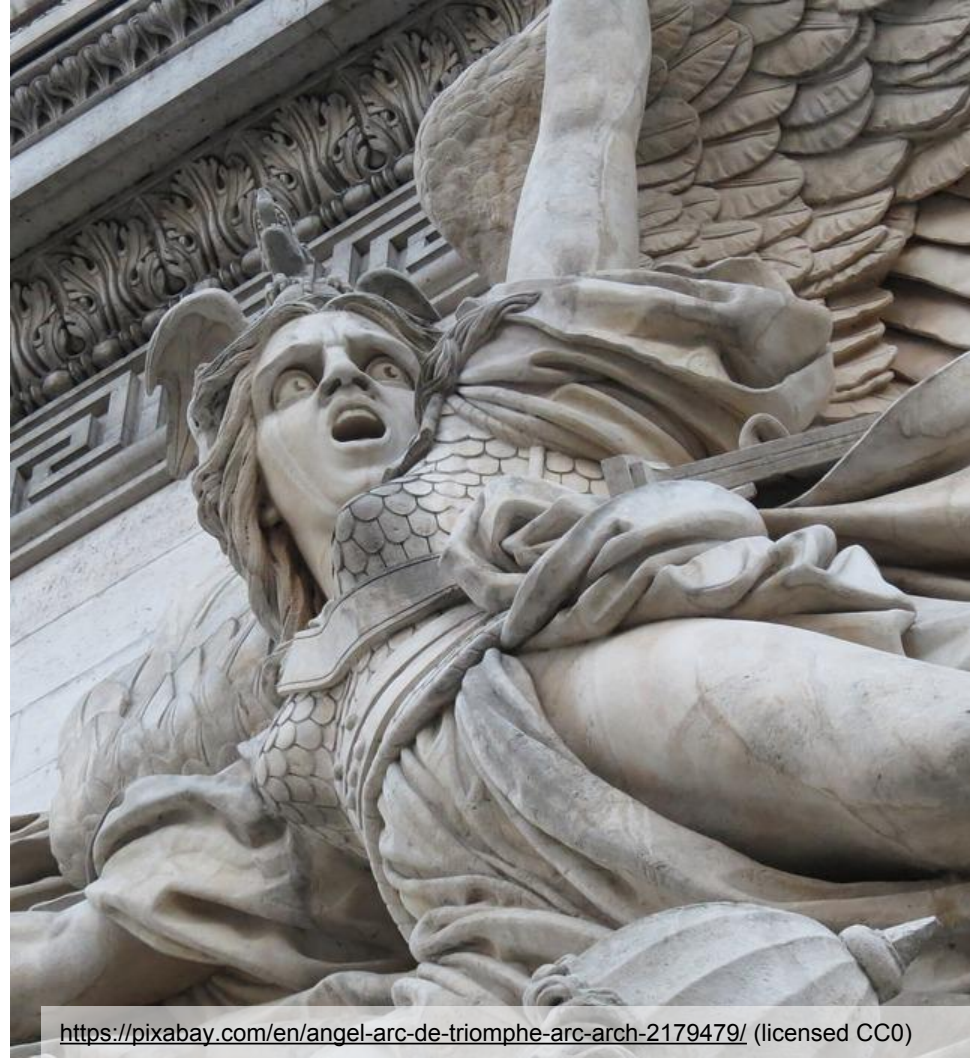
<https://waffle.io/nasa-gibs/worldview>





What else could go wrong?

- Sometimes people fork projects and never attempt to remerge
- Sometimes code history gets deleted
- Sometimes people leave projects without identifying successors
- Sometimes the direction of the project can be unclear
- Sometimes code just gets thrown over the wall



<https://pixabay.com/en/angel-arc-de-triomphe-arc-arch-2179479/> (licensed CC0)

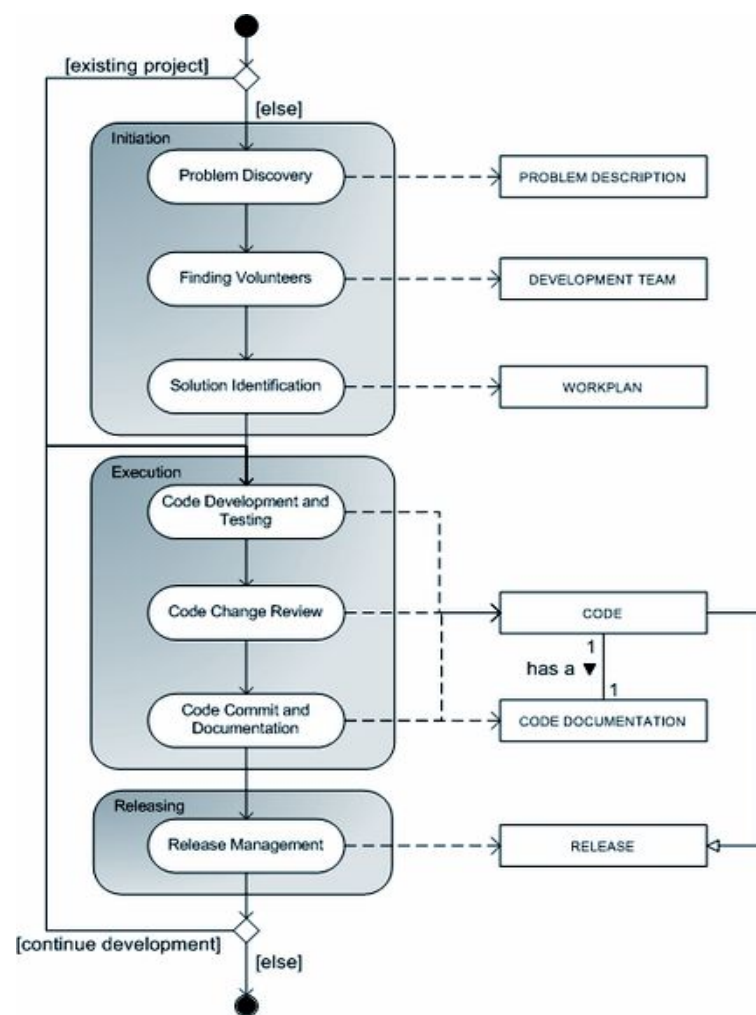



NASA is full of process and procedure.
How can we improve upon this one?



Starting with a clear plan.

1. We want to use
and reuse
and reuse our software.
2. We have a willing group of volunteers
3. We have vision of how we want to evolve.
4. We have an opportunity to improve on
“Execution” and “Releasing” in the open.





Embracing Open Source

(another case study in which we are starting on the ground floor)



Prototyping DAACs in the Cloud

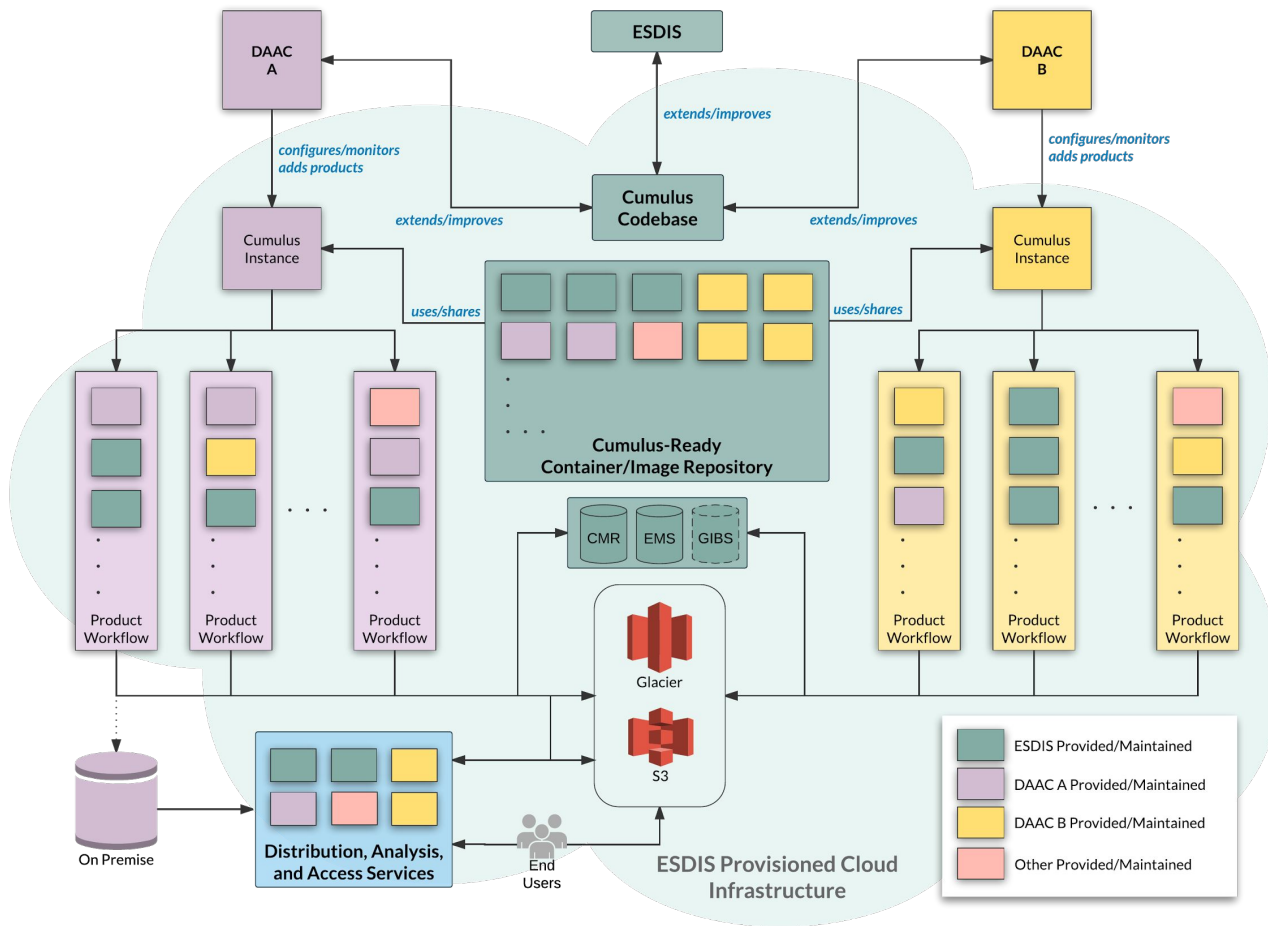
What is Cumulus?

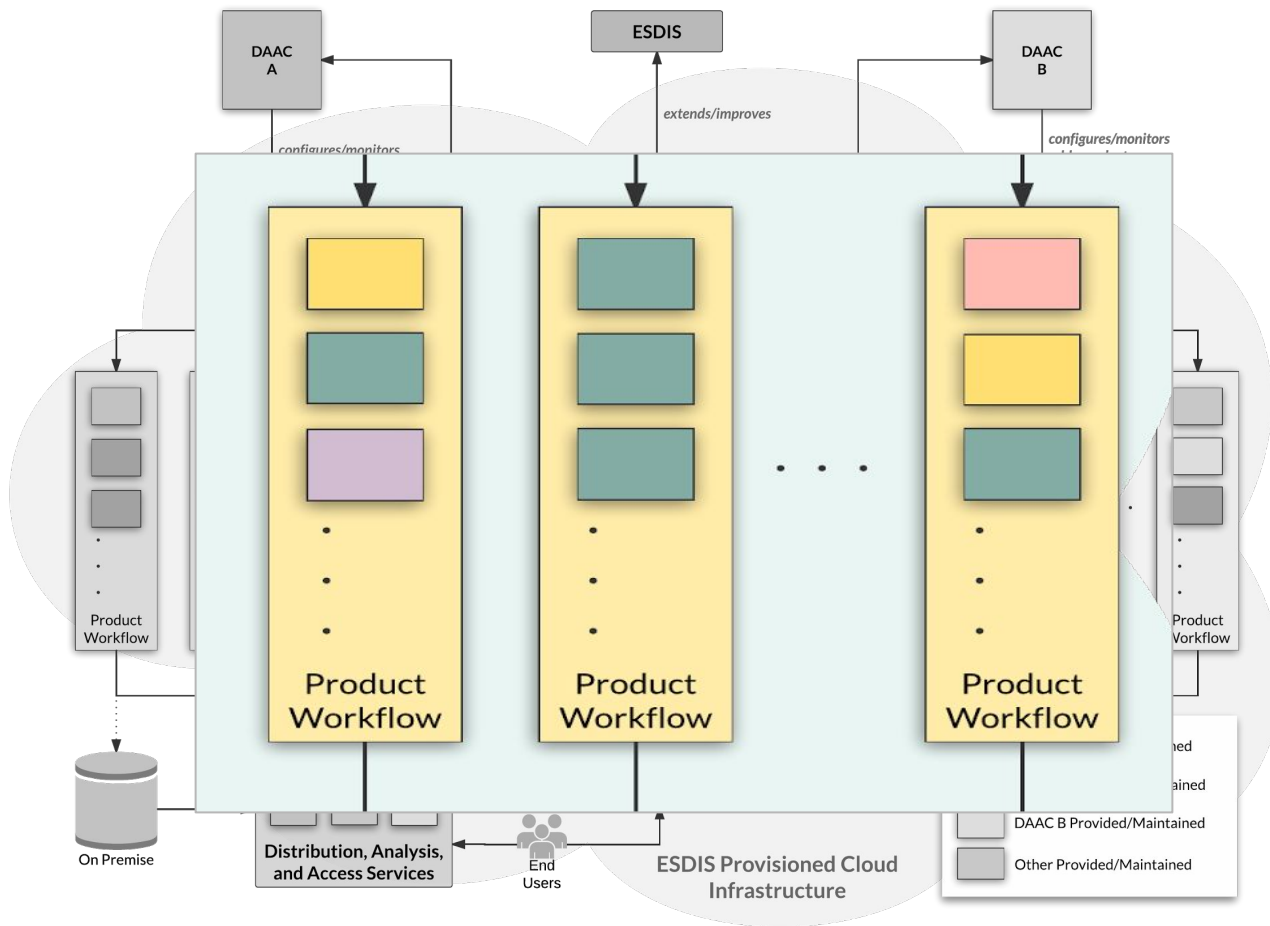
Lightweight cloud-native framework for data ingest, archive, distribution and management

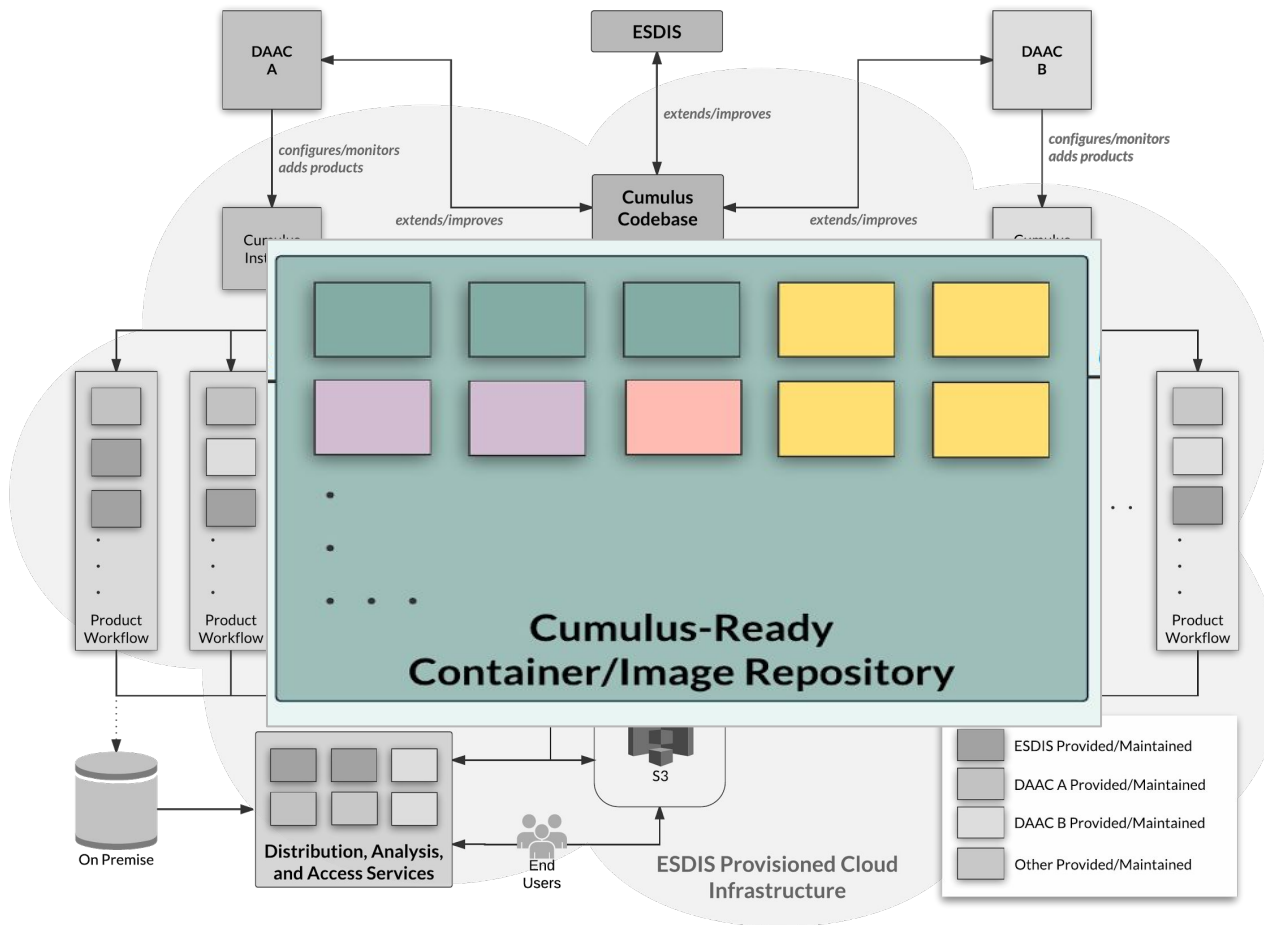
Goals

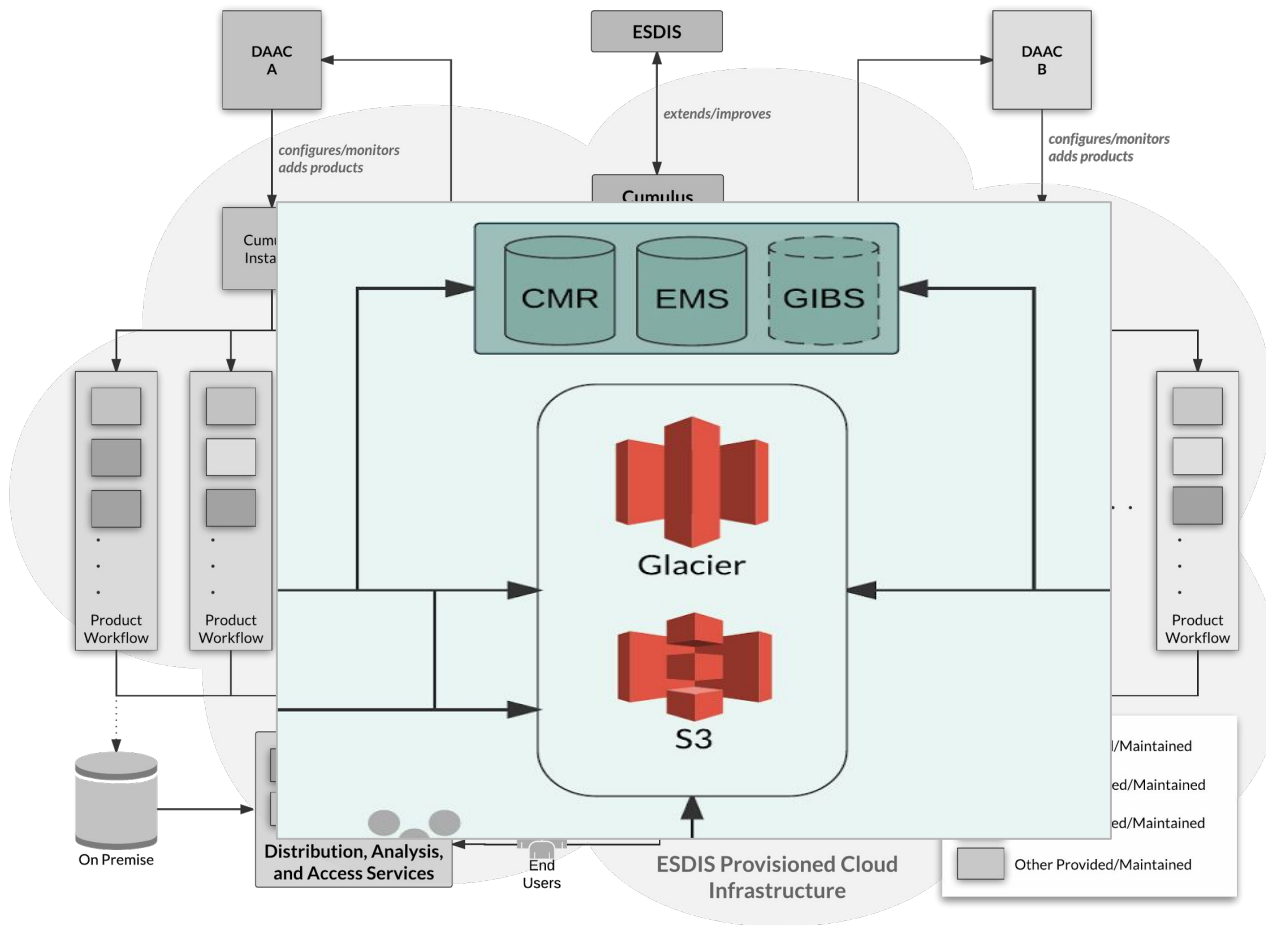
- Provide core DAAC functionality in a configurable manner
- **Enable DAACs to help each other with re-usable, compatible containers (e.g. widely applicable GIS components or sub-setters)**
- **Enable DAAC-specific customizations**

















We have long been a system of stovepipes
and “not invented here” types. And that is
changing as we evolve





We need to streamline, and create unified,
interoperable system that can grow with us.
Something we can claim group ownership of.






So ... how do we do this “right”




Drafting a contribution guide

1. Provide working definitions of the high-level components of the Cumulus system, including specifying which of those components are governed by this document.
2. Establish roles and responsibilities for contributions to Cumulus NASA's EOSDIS
3. Identify key communication flows, as well as information on documentation, testing and deployment paradigms
4. Outline high-level process expectations for Cumulus contributions and provide example process flows for these contributions

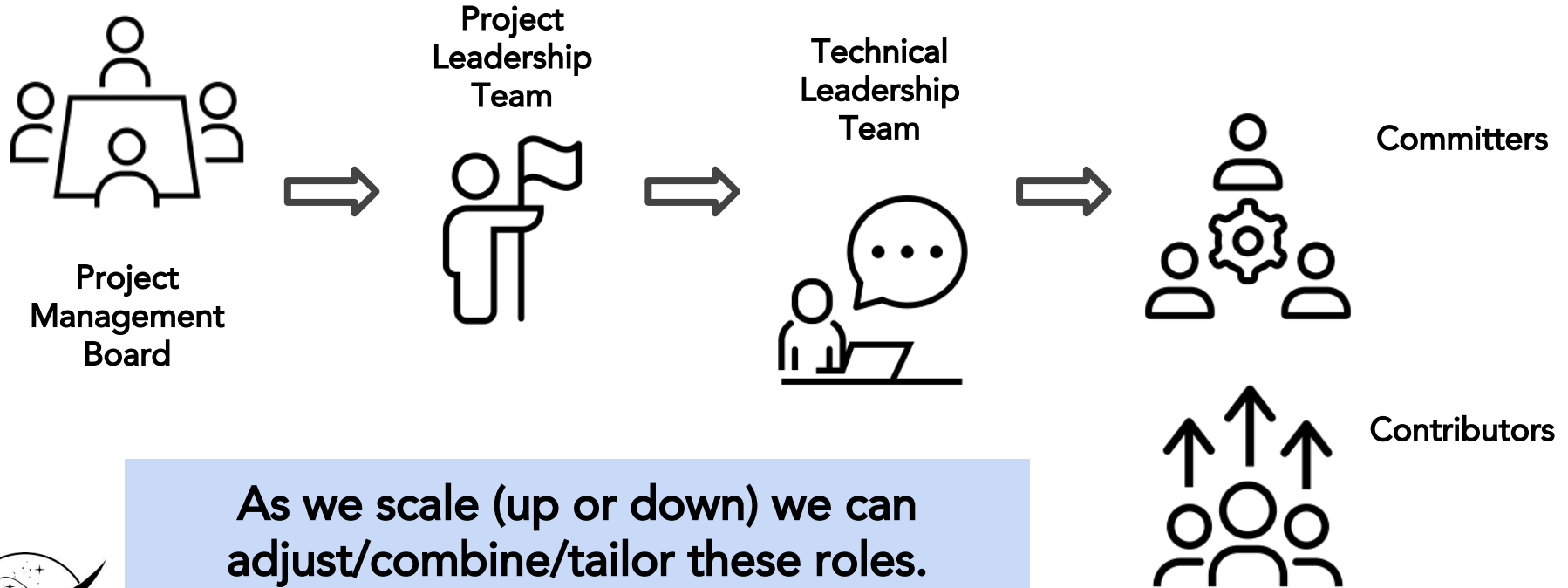




Mimic the Apache Way, but for a simpler use
case and narrower audience



Establishing Project Roles and Responsibilities



**As we scale (up or down) we can
adjust/combine/tailor these roles.
We can adapt to other projects/systems.**



Form a Working Group!

**give them
homework**

**set a
release
timeline**



Group Membership

@ Kathleen Baynes

@ Christopher Lynnes

@ Mark McInerney

@ Chris Stoner

@ Ian Schuler

@ Michael Gangl

@ Christine Smit

@ Darla Werner

@ Taylor Wright

@ Patrick Quinn

@ Christopher Torbert

@ Wayne Burke

@ Jason Werpy

@ Manil Maskey

Rustem Albayrak

@ Jason Duley

@ Lewis McGibbney

@ Ajinkya Kulkarni

Individual Assignments

Volunteer For An Assignment / Add A Resource

Understand your Obligations and Limitations

- Schedule regular meetings with the NASA Office of Patent Counsel
 - Do we need contributor licenses agreements?
 - Can we use docker hub?
 - What system evolutions require new a release process?
 - How do we keep NASA informed of how we are proceeding?
 - How can we help in guiding NASA policy at large?





Denouement

(so, what's next?)



We are abiding by these principles in Cumulus now.

By October 2017 (like, tomorrow in government time),
we will be rolling out this policy and making it “official”.

There is still work to do. We are just starting this journey.



Questions?

katie.baynes@nasa.gov